

Amendment After Final--amending claims 1-5, 8-10, 14-16, 19 and 20, with each claim identified as either “canceled,” claims 6, 7, 11, 12, 17 and 18; “currently amended,” claims 1-5, 8-10, 14-16, 19 and 20; or “previously presented,” claim 13, and all amendments shown by underlines or strikethroughs, in compliance with MPEP §714, and (b) the Amended Appeal Brief, appealing the rejection of claims 1-5, 8, 13, 14-16 and 19 only, without reference to claims 21-26.

In The Claims:

Please amend claims 1-5, 8-10, 14-16, 19 and 20 as provided below.

1. (Currently amended) An expansion joint cover comprising:
a pair of elongated frames, one of which is adapted to be secured in the lengthwise direction thereof to a building member extending along one side of an expansion gap and the other of which is adapted to be secured in the lengthwise direction thereof to another building member extending along the other side of the expansion gap, and each of which frames has an elongated planar support surface extending along the expansion gap, and
an elongated cover that is adapted to span the expansion gap and is supported on the planar support surfaces of the respective frames for sliding movement of the frames relative to the cover in a direction transverse to the expansion gap,
wherein the cover includes a modular center plate made up of a plurality of formed members, each formed member being rectangular in plan and of uniform cross-section

along an axis in the transverse direction thereof and having side edges parallel to the axis, and the formed members being arranged with their side edges adjacent each other and with their ends overlying the planar support surfaces of the ~~frame members~~ frames for said sliding movement relative thereto.

2. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 1, wherein adjacent pairs of formed members are coupled together by joints between the side edges.

3. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 1, wherein adjacent pairs of formed members are coupled together by slip joints between the side edges.

4. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 1, wherein all of the formed members of the modular center plate are of the same cross-section.

5. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 1, wherein the modular center plate includes a continuous edge frame member affixed to each end of the plurality of formed members.

Claims 6 and 7 – cancelled.

8. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 1, wherein each of the formed members has corrugations.

9. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 1, wherein each of the formed members has a plurality of transversely spaced-apart planar upper web portions, a plurality of transversely spaced-apart planar lower web portions staggered between the upper web portions, and a rib portion joining each edge of each upper web portion to an edge of each lower web portion.

10. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 9, wherein the upper web portions of all of the formed members are coplanar and the lower web portions of all of the formed members are coplanar.

Claims 11 and 12 – cancelled.

13. (Previously presented) An expansion joint cover comprising:
a pair of elongated frames, one of which is adapted to be secured in the lengthwise direction thereof to a building member extending along one side of an expansion gap and the other of which is adapted to be secured in the lengthwise direction thereof to another

building member extending along the other side of the expansion gap, and each of which frames has an elongated planar support surface extending along the expansion gap, and

an elongated cover that is adapted to span the expansion gap and is supported on the planar support surfaces of the respective frames for sliding movement of the frames relative to the cover in a direction transverse to the expansion gap,

wherein the cover includes a modular center plate that is made up of a plurality of identical formed members, each formed member being rectangular in plan and of uniform cross-section along an axis in the transverse direction thereof and having side edges parallel to the axis and the formed members being arranged with their side edges adjacent each other and with their ends overlying the planar support surfaces of the frames for said sliding movement relative thereto, and a continuous end frame member affixed to each end of the plurality of formed members.

14. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 13, wherein each end frame member includes spaced-apart upper and lower flanges forming a groove and the formed members are affixed to the end frame members by reception of end portions thereof in the grooves.

15. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 14, wherein each end of the modular center plate is supported on the support surface of the frame member by the lower flange of the end frame member.

16. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 13, wherein each end of the modular center plate is supported on the support surface of the frame member by a rod of a rigid low friction polymeric material received in a partially open socket in the end frame member.

Claims 17 and 18 – cancelled.

19. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 13, wherein each of the formed members is corrugated.

20. (Currently amended) The expansion joint cover improvement according to claim 13, wherein each of the formed members has a plurality of transversely spaced-apart planar upper web portions, a plurality of transversely spaced-apart planar lower web portions staggered between the upper web portions, and a rib portion joining each edge of each upper web portion to an edge of each lower web portion.